

tened, not coronated spire; in the keel of the volutions not being strongly plicate-toothed and raised above the sutural line; in the volutions not being flattened above the keel; and lastly, in their less remote and strong, not tooth-like, radiating ribs or plaits.

I am indebted to Mr. Edmund Leacock of Madeira, a young and zealous entomologist, for several examples of a *Planorbis* found by him in a tank in Dr. Lister's beautiful and richly-stored garden at Funchal, where I understand the same shell had been previously obtained by Mr. J. Y. Johnson. These examples belong unquestionably to *P. glaber*, Jeffr. (*laevis*, Ald.); and, like *Helix aspersa*, Müll., in another garden at Funchal, the species has been doubtless introduced within the last few years from Portugal, where Dr. Bocage, Director of the Lisbon Museum, finds abundantly, in stagnant water, tanks, &c., everywhere, a shell precisely identical. Examples from Cintra, kindly communicated by this able naturalist, who is at present actively engaged in studying the very imperfectly explored Molluscan fauna of his country, perfectly agree with these Madeiran specimens, one of which is remarkable for exhibiting faint traces of spiral striæ towards the peristome on the under or lower and more concave side of the shell,—invalidating so far the specific difference, which has been, indeed, already called in question (see Gray's *Man.* p. 260; though compare also Forbes and Hanley, *Brit. Moll.* iv. 151), between *P. glaber*, Jeffr., and *P. albus*, Müll.

Lea Rectory, June 12, 1860.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE III.

Fig. 1. *Helix delphinuloides*, upper side; fig. 2, under side of the same; fig. 3, seen in profile.

XI.—On a new Species of Black-fish found on the Coast of Cornwall. By Dr. ALBERT GÜNTHER.

THE genus *Centrolophus* (or the Black-fish of British ichthyologists) comprises fishes which evidently are inhabitants of the open sea, living in the Mediterranean and in the European part of the Atlantic, between lat. 30° and 58° N. They fall only occasionally into the hands of zoologists, which circumstance will account for the lateness of the discovery of a new European species.

The specimen on which I have founded the species was found thrown on shore near Polperro, in the month of February of the present year, during rough weather, and was stuffed and sent to the British Museum. Fortunately Mr. Couch had

previously drawn a pencil sketch of the fish, which he kindly communicated to me as soon as I had informed him that the specimen was different from the other known species. It was evident from this sketch that the head of the specimen had been deformed by stuffing, but that the elongated form of its body is a natural character. The chief difference, however, from *Centrolophus pompilus* is in the increased number of the anal rays, which amount to thirty in the present specimen, while they vary between twenty-three and twenty-five in all the specimens of *C. pompilus* which have hitherto been examined. I have therefore no doubt about its specific distinctness, and propose to call it *Centrolophus britannicus*, not because I think it is confined to the British seas, but because it has been observed first on the British coast. The characters by which the three species of *Centrolophus* may be readily distinguished are, shortly, the following:—

Centrolophus britannicus. The height of the body is one-fifth of the total length; dorsal fin with 45, anal with 30 rays.

Centrolophus pompilus. The height of the body is one-fourth of the total length; dorsal fin with 39–41, anal with 23–25 rays.

Centrolophus ovalis. The height of the body is one-third of the total length; dorsal fin with 40, anal with 24–27 rays.

A further question arises, whether our new species has not been indicated by one of the earlier writers, or whether it has been confounded under the numerous denominations considered as synonyms of *C. pompilus*. The circumstance that the four specimens of the Black-fish observed on the British coast, and proved to belong to the genus *Centrolophus*, have been found on the coast of Cornwall, might lead to the unfounded supposition that the fish is peculiar to this part of England. I think it receives explanation from the fact that the ichthyology of Cornwall has been worked out more completely than that of any other part of the south coast of Britain,—first by Borlase, from the papers of Mr. Jago of East Looe, and afterwards by so excellent and indefatigable an observer as Mr. Couch. Jago observed two of the four specimens caught together in one net; and the accurate figure given by Borlase*, and the statements of the relative measurements †, of the distance of the commencement of the dorsal fin from the snout, &c., afford ample proof that those two fishes were not the *C. britannicus*, but belonged to the

* Borlase, Nat. Hist. of Cornwall, p. 271, pl. 26. fig. 8.

† Mr. Couch (Yarr. Brit. Fish. 2nd edit. i. p. 180) appears to have misunderstood Jago's description, in which the fish of thirteen inches is represented as three-fourths of an inch broad. Jago intended to give a statement of the horizontal width, and not, as Mr. Couch thinks, of the depth of the body.

true *C. pompilus*. They became, in the works of systematic authors, the Black-Ruffe of Pennant, *Perca nigra* of Gmelin, *Holocentrus niger* of Lacépède. The two other specimens which fell into the hands of Mr. Couch, and which were described by him in Yarrell's work, were also *C. pompilus*, as is evident from the number of the fin-rays stated*.

With regard to *Centrolophus morio*, Lacép. (Mr. Couch had marked his sketch with the name of *Centrolophus morio*?), Cuvier has examined the typical specimen to which Lacépède had given that denomination. He found it entirely agreeing with *C. pompilus*, especially with regard to the number of the fin-rays; and there is not the slightest doubt that *C. morio*, like *C. liparis*, Risso, is a nominal species, and synonymous with *C. pompilus*.

Finally, *Centrolophus crassus*, Cuv. and Val., if at all different from *C. ovalis*, cannot be confounded with our new species,—having the body as high as *C. ovalis*, and only thirty-nine rays in the dorsal fin.

Two other British specimens of the Black-fish are mentioned in Yarrell, Brit. Fish. 3rd edit. p. 250: one came under the observation of the Rev. George Gordon, at Lossiemouth (Moray Firth), the other under that of Mr. Rudd, at Redcar. No other information with regard to these two fishes has been preserved.

XII.—On Additions to the Madeiran Coleoptera.

By T. VERNON WOLLASTON, M.A., F.L.S.

[Continued from vol. v. p. 459.]

Fam. Tenebrionidæ.

Genus GNATHOCERUS.

Thunberg, Act. Holmiens. 47 (1814).

The present genus is identical with what I have hitherto cited as *Cerandria*,—Thunberg's name of *Gnathocerus*, which until lately appears to have been lost sight of by entomologists, having the priority in point of date. Hence the common *Cerandria cornuta* must be quoted as the *Gnathocerus cornutus*. Another species, detected by myself during the spring of 1859, has been added to our fauna since the publication of my last paper, which I conclude to be coincident (if indeed it be possible to draw any conclusion at all from such meagre descriptions as those of Fabricius) with the *Trogosita maxillosa* of the 'Systema Eleutheratorum.'

* Yarr. Brit. Fish. 2nd edit. i. p. 182.